



**SEATTLE PARKS  
AND RECREATION**

# Carkeek Park

**Environmental Learning Center**

950 NW Carkeek Park Rd, Seattle, WA 98177

206-684-0877

Visit us online at [www.seattle.gov/parks](http://www.seattle.gov/parks)

**January – March 2006**



**Living Green, Nature Classes,  
Walks Talks and Special Events, and  
Environmental Stewardship**

## **Carkeek Park Environmental Learning Center**

950 NW Carkeek Park Rd, Seattle, WA 98177  
Phone: 206-684-0877 Fax 206-364-4685  
Visit us online at **[www.seattle.gov/parks](http://www.seattle.gov/parks)**

### **Hours of operation**

Monday – Friday 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

### **Holiday closures**

Monday, January 2, New Year's observed  
Monday, January 16, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr Day  
Monday, February 20, Presidents' Day

### **Program registration**

Register now.

### **Program dates**

January – March 2006

### **About Carkeek Park**

**Location:** Carkeek Park is located in northwest Seattle and is accessed by heading west on NW 110th street from 3rd Ave NW. The park is open from 6 a.m. – 10 p.m. daily. The Environmental Learning Center Campus is just inside the main gate entrance and is open Monday – Friday from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Park amenities include Environmental Learning Center, Play Area, Picnic Shelters, Trail System (including ADA accessible trails), View Meadows, Beach Access, and Salmon Spawning Creeks. Call 206-684-4081 for picnic shelter reservations.

**Park rules:** Dogs are allowed in the park but must be on leash at all times. No dogs are allowed on the beach or in the wetlands. Walkers and joggers are encouraged to enjoy our extensive trail system. No bikes are allowed on forest trails; however, paved roads allow for great rides!

### **Mission**

Seattle Parks and Recreation will work with all citizens to be good stewards of our environment, and to provide safe and welcoming opportunities to play, learn, contemplate, and build community.

### **Rentals**

For information about room rentals, please view our facility rental brochure. (<http://www.seattle.gov/parks/reservations/facrentalguide.htm>)

## **How to Find Us**

Carkeek Park is located in the northwest part of Seattle at 950 NW Carkeek Park Road (north of the Holman Road NW QFC and west of Viewlands Elementary School).

Dear Readers,

Thank you for your interest in Carkeek Park and for being on the brochure mailing list. Please know this is the last Carkeek Park brochure you will receive in the mail. Effective January 1, 2006, we will stop mailing the quarterly brochure to help save on costs associated with production and to conserve paper. Mayor Nickels issued an Executive Order in February of this year — [www.seattle.gov/papercuts](http://www.seattle.gov/papercuts) — that directs city departments to reduce paper use by 15% in 2005, and by an additional 15% in 2006.

Carkeek Park's brochure is available online at **[www.seattle.gov/parks/parkspaces/Carkeek.htm](http://www.seattle.gov/parks/parkspaces/Carkeek.htm)**.

The Carkeek Park staff apologize for any inconvenience this may cause. Please feel free to contact staff at 206-684-0877.

Best Regards,  
Carkeek Staff

### **Professional staff**

Ken Bounds, Superintendent  
B. J. Brooks, Deputy Superintendent  
Kathie Huus, Special Units Manager  
Leila Wilke, Environmental Learning Centers Manager  
Belinda Chin, Education Program Supervisor  
Brian Gay, Naturalist  
Beth Miller, Watershed Outreach Specialist  
Michelle Allen, Recreation Leader  
Nancie Jaramillo, Maintenance Lead

### **Carkeek Park Advisory Council**

**Current members include:** Executive Board: Fran Clifton, President; Russ Kurtz, Vice President; Carey Chaplin, Secretary; Lex Voorhoeve, Treasurer. **General Members:** Shirley Anderson, Dean Fournier, Doug Gresham, Carolyn Kruse, Nancy Malmgren, Peter Marx, Gudrun Murti, and Linda Sawyer.

### **Suggestions**

We welcome your ideas. If you want to suggest a new class, or if you have an idea you think would benefit us or our community in general, please let us know.

### **E-Brochures are available!**

In keeping with our environmental stewardship policies, we're trying to reduce the amount of paper we use. We invite you to visit our web site at **[www.seattle.gov/parks](http://www.seattle.gov/parks)**. You can find this brochure information online (see info box above).

# Cool Things to See and Do in Carkeek Park

We encourage you to discover the secrets of the Carkeek Watershed. Enjoy the park, but remember: please do not disturb or take anything — there are urban natural systems at work!

- Walk around the natural and backyard wildlife habitat demonstration gardens surrounding the Environmental Learning Center campus to learn about native plants and wildlife corridors.
- Roam the trails of Carkeek Park. The Civilian Conservation Corps originally built many of the trails and the stone shelter in 1934.
- Play at the playground. Slide through a salmon, crawl in a cave and read the petroglyphs, walk the wiggly bridge, ride the critters.
- On a low tide, walk north to Whispering Rock and look for sea stars, sea cucumbers, mussels, tubeworms, and three kinds of barnacles. Please be gentle — these critters are part of a food web that makes the Pacific Northwest unique!
- Check out the historic Piper's Orchard. The apple trees were grown by the Piper family in 1889 and the apples were taken to Pike Place Market to sell. The orchard was "rediscovered" in 1983 under blackberry brambles and restored by the Piper's Creek Orchard Chapter of the Western Cascade Fruit Society. Many species of these apples were thought to be extinct.
- See how many of the regional 100+ bird species you can identify. Stop by the Environmental Learning Center for a checklist.
- Hike the Piper's Creek trail from the McAbee entrance to the Puget Sound. Look for the glacial erratic (big rock carried from Canada by ice!) at the McAbee entrance and the large cedar stumps left after logging occurred.

## Facility Rentals

Interested in hosting a private party, conference, meeting or other event? The Environmental Learning Center has a 60 person capacity and is available for rent until 9 p.m. most evenings. **Call 684-0877 to find out prices and other information.**

- Hike the Salmon to Sound trail built by the Carkeek Watershed Community Action Project. Pick up the self-guiding brochure across from the Metro Plant.
- Wander the wetland trail. Look for wildlife tracks in the mud; salmon in the stream (seasonal); baby mallards in the large pond; resident birds in the shrubs.
- Lay in a field and just look, listen, breathe and relax in a small piece of wildness set aside in a sea of city.

## Free Piper's Creek Watershed Tours

Curious about the new street drainage projects in Broadview? Want to see the new sustainably-designed Environmental Learning Center at Carkeek Park? Always wondered what the "Welcome to Piper's Creek Watershed" sign really is about? Free tours are available for groups of 8 or more. **Call Beth Miller at 206-684-0877, ext 6 for more information or to schedule your group.**

## Senior Adults

### Tai Chi (Wu Style)

Fall prevention strategies, improved circulation, slow, gentle, short movements. **For more information or to register, please call Carol Baxter at 206-233-7138.**

**Age: 55+**

**Mondays 10 – 11 a.m. Jan 9 – Mar 13**

**Fees: \$25.00**

### More Information

For more info about Senior Adult classes and events citywide, please call 206-684-4951 and ask for a copy of our latest brochure!

# Special Events and Offerings

## Earth Day Celebration

### An Opportunity to Help the Earth:

#### Earth Day at Carkeek Park

Please join in celebrating the 26th Annual Earth Day Event at Carkeek Park. Meet at the Environmental Learning Center just right of the park entrance to sign up for activities. This year we are celebrating the 25th Anniversary of the dedication of the Salmon to Sound Trail and honoring 26 years of continuous service to Carkeek Park by the Aurora District Boy Scouts.

Please call **Nancy Malmgren at 206-363-4116** to register and to pass on any stories of Boy Scout activities - past, present, or future - in Carkeek Park. We are looking for photographs and/or plans of Eagle Scout or Troop park projects.

**Age: All ages**

**Sat, Apr 22**

**8:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.**

**Location: Carkeek Park**

## Trees for Salmon Planting Day

**We need your help!** Come give some muscle-power for the Piper's Creek salmon when we plant trees and understory shrubs in Carkeek Park on the fourth annual Trees for Salmon Planting Day.

With help from Swansons Nursery staff, Parks staff, and other watershed volunteers like you, we will plant useful native plants in the forest above Piper's Creek. These plants provide shade, homes and nutrients for salmon and other wildlife. The plants are supplied through an annual holiday plant donation program at Swansons Nursery in cooperation with Seattle Parks and Recreation.

**To register or for more information, please call 206-684-0877.**

**Age: Older Teens and Adults**

**Sat, Jan 21**

**9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.**

**Location: Meet between 1202 and 1204 NW Norcross Way (south side of Carkeek Park)**

## Naturalist's Notebook — Winter 2006: Non-native Plant Invasion of Carkeek Park and Seattle Urban Forests

The Carkeek Park forest seems serene, but we are finding it more often a scene of struggle between plants, between seeds and timing for germination, between the native plant species of the last ice age and the plants that moved in with human urbanization and world travel. There is a quiet battle waging in the forest that is slowly threatening its unique Pacific Northwest qualities.

Evidence of weedy invaders is easy to find across the park, especially at this time of year. Look at the maple trees on Carkeek's southern slopes — without their leaves you can see the twisted cables of English ivy swarming up many of the tree trunks into the trees' canopies, snapping tender branches. Ivy and other invasive (non-native) plants are strangling most of Seattle's forests, spurring the establishment of the Green Seattle Partnership (GSP) sponsored by Cascade Land Conservancy and Seattle Parks and Recreation (for more information: [www.djc.com/news/en/11159553.html](http://www.djc.com/news/en/11159553.html)). GSP's vision is to remove invasive species from and restore 2,500 acres of forested parkland citywide over 20 years.

Invasive plants arrive in the park various ways: creeping from neighboring yards into the woods; as seeds spread by birds that ate invasives' berries;

or taking root from broken fragments spread by people. Non-native plants spread across landscapes, unimpeded by ownership boundaries. These plants are harsh on our environment because they have the advantages of Seattle's mild climate and rare competition from native plants. Invasives displace native plants; degrade or eliminate habitat and forage for wildlife; threaten endangered species; impact recreation; affect fire frequency; alter soil properties; and decrease biodiversity. King County and Washington Native Plant Society offer web pages with detailed information about invasive plants.

Seattle Parks and Recreation is working to reclaim and restore its urban forests to Pacific Northwest majesty. Carkeek Park is allied with the Green Seattle Partnership as well as volunteer groups such as Carkeek Park's Master Foresters, Seattle Public Utility Creek Stewards and the Carkeek STARS (Stream, Trails And Reforestation Stewards) to step up the effort to replant and restore the forest and its defenses against the negative impacts of non-native plants. If you are interested in getting involved or learning more about these efforts, please call us at 206-684-0877.

— Brian Gay, Carkeek Park Staff Naturalist



# Nature Classes

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## Family Fridays at Carkeek Park

Free and fun! Bring your family to the Environmental Learning Center for arts & crafts projects, hear a story, take an evening hike, see a film, or share in everyday sciences.

Please pre-register each week by calling during business hours, Monday-Friday, 10 am- 4 pm, 206-684-0877 x 1.

**Fridays**

**7 – 8:30 p.m.**

## Discovery Day Packs

For an “on-your-own”, environmental learning experience for small groups (6 to 8 children with an adult), Discovery Day Packs are available at the Environmental Learning Center. Come borrow our Beach, Forest, or Wetland Ecology Packs today! Each backpack comes filled with games, craft ideas, magnifying glasses, dip nets, field tools, field guides, and more for exploring Carkeek Park!

“Pack” activities

- are free, one per small group;
- are designed for children **Grades K – 5**;
- require adult supervision;
- focus on self-guided family-oriented education.

Check-out a free backpack with a valid Washington Driver’s License or credit card. Backpacks are available Monday through Friday at 10 a.m. and must be returned by 3 p.m.

## Carkeek Tyke Hikes are for you!

Share nature with your children. Down in a hidden valley where the grass and ferns grow ‘neath the tall old trees is a special place for you and your child to explore. Tyke Hikes provide you with the tools to help your child love the outdoors.

You and a naturalist will share a new subject each Thursday (for example, water, color & shapes, growth, signs of nature etc.) through stories, songs, crafts and outdoor activities. Program will run for 9 consecutive Thursdays. Maximum 8 tykes. Pre-register at (206)684-0877

**Thursdays, Jan 12 – Mar 9      1:30 – 2:45 p.m.**

\$25 per child for entire series or \$5 per child per session. Maximum 3 children per adult. If a child is coming for only one session, phone ahead for space.

**Location: Carkeek Park**

**Age: 3 to 6 years old accompanied by an adult**

## Eye Wonder Programs

A splendid mix of sensory, exploratory and animal programs provide your pre-school children with a deeper look at the natural world in a fun and interesting way. Introduce them to natural wonders with our one-hour programs: Mice and Monsters: Animal Homes and Behavior or Earth Secrets: Senses and Nature. Each theme includes 3 unique habitat based programs: choose from wetlands, stream, or forest (for example: “Earth Secrets – Wetlands”). **Please call at least three weeks in advance of your preferred trip date to schedule a program.**

**Age: Preschool & Kindergarten age**

**Fees: 7–10 children/\$35; 11–20 children/\$70**

## Nature Discovery Group Programs

**Please call 206-684-0877 at least three weeks in advance of your preferred date to schedule a program.**

Nature Discovery is a unique, adaptable ecology activity series that integrates science, language arts and environmental programs with your classroom, community group, or service group. These two-hour-long programs meet the Washington Essential Academic Learning Requirements and support National Science Foundation kit programs. Programs can be adapted and brought to your school, park, lake or nearby green space. Interactive, investigative programs currently relate to wetlands, forest, salmon and beaches. Also, we provide a basic program on plant growth and development --

most appropriate for younger elementary students -- and a general ecology program is available for older elementary and middle school students.

**Fees:**

**1–15 students/\$65,  
16–30 students/\$130**



# Environmental Stewardship/Living Green

## Join the Carkeek Park Citizen Water Quality Monitoring Team



Learn what water characteristics are important to the health of Piper's Creek aquatic life, special needs of the salmon, and how you can help protect the water quality of Puget Sound. Learn how to use water

quality monitoring tests. **For more information call Nancy Malmgren at 206-363-4116.** Sponsored by CWCAP, Piper's Creek Watershed Interpretive Program, SPU's Creek Steward Program, and Carkeek Park.

## Be a Creek Steward

Creek Stewards adopt and care for habitat plantings along a creek, monitor their sites, and have the opportunity to learn more about creek-related topics through site stewardship workshops. **Call Bob Spencer, Seattle Public Utilities Creek Steward Program Coordinator at 206-684-4163 for details.**

**Location: Creekside sites in Thornton, Longfellow and Piper's Creek.**

## Piper's Orchard Work Parties

Join the Western Cascade Fruit Society/Piper Orchard Chapter in maintaining the historic Piper's Orchard. Volunteers prune, trim, and clear debris. **Contact Carkeek Park at 206-684-0877.**

## Llandover Woods Open Space

Stewards for Llandover Woods will be hosting a work party each month to restore habitats at risk from invasive plants. Join us at 9 a.m. for a bird walk to explore the jewels of Llandover. We will remove invasives from 10 a.m. – Noon. Tools, gloves and instructions will be provided. **For additional information, please contact Glenn Austin 206-364-9252 or gaustin@path.org.** Registration is required.

**Location: East parking lot off of NW 145th ST & 3rd Ave NW.**



## Earn Service Learning Credits

Satisfy your Environmental Science or Service Learning requirements while exploring the wilds of Carkeek Park. Under the direction of Carkeek Habitat staff, you will receive instruction and participate in backyard habitat maintenance, invasive plant removal, salmon habitat restoration and reforestation activities. We also have docent environmental education opportunities throughout the year. **To schedule your service learning opportunity, please call 206-684-0877.**

## Announcing Openings: Youth Naturalists for Carkeek Park

Youth naturalists work, teach and connect with their community. Get IN-volved! If you can imagine yourself getting the chance to teach kids about nature, play outdoors, learn cool stuff about Seattle and Puget Sound you won't hear anywhere else, and meet other teens active in their community; then being a Youth Naturalist for Carkeek is FOR YOU! YN's assist with and teach in EarthKeepers Day Camp and many other activities of the real world of running a park.

Competitive registration, stipends and multi-week Spring training for Summer. Call (206) 684-0877 for more information. Application period begins February 1, and ends April 7.

**Wed, Feb 1 – Fri, Apr 7**

**Location: Carkeek Park**

**Age: High School, Grades 9 to 12**

## Fish-Friendly Car Wash Kit Available at Carkeek Park

Car washes can be terrific fundraisers and a great way to build community. However, if a car wash is done incorrectly it can hurt local fish and other wildlife. Most storm drains and ditches around Carkeek Park and the Blue Ridge, Broadview, Crown Hill and Greenwood neighborhoods connect to Piper's Creek, so soapy water, dirt, and phosphates get into the creek. Seattle Public Utilities has developed a car wash kit you can borrow that collects the soapy water and pumps it to a sanitary connection. The kit is available at Carkeek Park. **To borrow the kit for your next community car wash fundraiser or find out more call 206-684-0877. A \$25 fully-refundable deposit is required when borrowing the kit.**

## **Payment**

You can pay for classes and other activities by mail or in person during regular facility hours. Please make checks and money orders out to Carkeek Park Advisory Council (CPAC). Please note: Payment is due when you register, unless we have indicated otherwise. If your check is returned for insufficient funds, your registration will be cancelled until you pay the amount due, plus a \$20 fee (cash only). We are working on a system that will make online registration available in the future.

## **Refunds**

It is the policy of Seattle Parks and Recreation and the Associated Recreation Council that:

- Anyone who registers for a class, camp, special event or program that is cancelled by Parks and Recreation or the Advisory Council will receive a full refund.
- Anyone who registers for a day camp, trip, overnight camp, special event, or facility rental, and requests a refund 14 days or more before its start (or before the second session of a class), may receive a refund minus a service charge.
- Anyone who registers for a day camp, trip, overnight camp, special event, or facility rental, and who withdraws from the activity fewer than 14 days before its start (or after the second session of a class), will receive no refund.
- Please read policy, #7.16 for specific information.

## **You can make a difference!**

Advisory Council is a group of citizens dedicated to the enrichment of our community. Its support enables us to offer a variety of programs and services for people of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds.

Our Advisory Council is always looking for new members. Meetings are held on the fourth Monday evening of every month to talk about programs, policies, and financial issues. Citizen direction and participation are vital to our continued success. Advisory Council members also create scholarship opportunities through grant writing and other fundraising activities. If you'd like to get involved, please contact our staff.

Most classes, workshops, sports, and special events are funded through the Advisory Council rather than through Seattle Parks and Recreation. Revenues generated through program fees offset program costs to make Advisory Council activities self-sustaining. We rely heavily on program participation, donations, and contributions to buy, repair, maintain, and upgrade program equipment and supplies.

## **Scholarships**

Our Advisory Council wants to ensure that activities, classes and sports are available to everyone, regardless of their ability to pay. The Council offers scholarships for qualified applicants. To apply for a scholarship, please talk to a member of our staff.

## **Interested in teaching?**

We're always looking for top quality instructors to offer courses. We offer classes based on participants' interest and space availability. If you have a special talent, skill, or knowledge you would like to share with others in a class or workshop format, please talk to a member of our staff.

## **Anti-discrimination**

As a matter of policy, law, and commitment, Seattle Parks and Recreation does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, political ideology, age, creed, religion, ancestry, national origin, or the presence of any sensory, mental or physical handicap.

## **Accommodation for people with disabilities**

We will make reasonable accommodation, upon request, for people with disabilities. For sign language interpretation, auxiliary aids or other accommodation, please call 206-615-0140 or TDD 206-684-4950. Please allow 10 working days' advance notice. If a class or activity is scheduled in an area not accessible for wheelchairs, we will make every effort to help you find a similar program in an accessible location.

## **More information**

For information about Parks and Recreation facilities, recreation programs, picnic shelters, and scheduling, please visit our web site at [www.seattle.gov/parks](http://www.seattle.gov/parks), or call our Public Information line, 206-684-4075. For more information about senior adult programs, please call 206-684-4951; and for information about programs for special population, please call 206-684-4950.

## **Fees and charges**

Our Advisory Council provides the programs and activities listed in this brochure under an agreement with Seattle Parks and Recreation. Fees collected by the Advisory Council are used to offset the cost of providing the programs. Program charges include user fees of 3.25% paid to Seattle Parks and Recreation to defray operating costs. Class and program fees include Washington State sales tax when applicable. Fees and charges subject to change.

## **Waiting lists**

We create waiting lists for all filled classes. Please be sure to sign up if you are interested in a class that is full, because class openings often become available. If demand is high, we will try to form another class. Please contact us for space availability.

## **Class cancellations**

To cover the cost of providing a program, we need a specific number of participants. If too few people sign up for a class, we must cancel it. We'll notify you (at the latest) one or two days before the class start date. When possible, we'll postpone a cancelled class for a week to allow for more enrollments; if the class minimum is not met by then, we'll have to cancel it.

# Program Registration Form

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Make Check Payable to: Carkeek Park Advisory Council

Mail to: Carkeek Park Environmental Learning Center

950 NW Carkeek Park Rd

Seattle, WA 98177-4755

Phone: 206-684-0877 Fax: 206-364-4685

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Day Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Eve Phone \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

REGISTRANT	PROGRAM TITLE	AGE	DATE	FEE
			<b>TOTAL</b>	



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